

	<p>United States Department of Agriculture</p> <p>Forest Service</p>	<p>NEWS RELEASE</p>	<p>KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST</p> <p>1711 South Main Street Yreka, CA 96097 (530) 841-6131 www.fs.usda.gov/klamath</p>	
<p>March 22, 2013</p>	<p>For Immediate Release</p>	<p>Media Contact: Jennifer Velez (530) 841-4485 or jvelez@fs.fed.us</p>		

Prescribed Burn Planned for the Tennant Area to Reduce Hazardous Fuels

(Macdoel, CA.) – The Goosenest Ranger District of the Klamath National Forest is planning to conduct a 963 acre under-burn approximately 2 miles north of Tennant, CA. The burn is scheduled to begin on Monday, March 25th and will likely be completed in several phases through mid-April. The actual dates of ignition will depend on local weather and fuel conditions.

These burns, collectively called the Garner Ranch Prescribed Fire Project, are part of a hazardous fuels reduction program designed to protect the town of Tennant and residences in the Round Valley area from wildland fires. The project is part of several ongoing efforts that include thinning timber stands, mowing brush and the use of prescribed fire. Additional prescribed burning projects around Tennant are planned for the spring. The timeframe for completion of the burns may be substantially reduced if weather and fuel conditions are right.

The goals of Monday’s prescribed burn are to reduce the amount of surface vegetation, known as fuel loads, and create a mosaic of burned and unburned patches. This will reduce the potential for an uncharacteristically intense wildfire to threaten nearby residences and the town of Tennant. In addition, the burn will help promote a diverse and more resilient forest, and improve habitat for big game species.

The burn will be conducted under strict adherence to an approved burn plan to ensure the safety of people and property in the area. This plan describes specific conditions that are needed to conduct the burn including the weather conditions, number of personnel, and conditions for minimizing smoke impacts. The burn will not be conducted if any of the parameters of the burn plan aren’t met.

“We only conduct controlled burns when conditions allow for safe and successful burning operations,” said Mike Powell, Fire Management Officer for the Goosenest Ranger District. “We appreciate everyone’s understanding and patience while these burns are taking place,” said Powell.

Visitors are asked to avoid the burn area. Several spur roads near the burn area may be inaccessible during operations. As a result of the burns, residents and visitors may see or smell smoke in the area. They may also witness glowing from the fires at night. People should not be alarmed; the fires are carefully monitored. Local authorities will be notified prior to burn days and kept informed throughout burning operations.

For more information please contact Fuels Specialist Ron McEwan at (530)398-5731 or Fire Management Officer Mike Powell at (530)398-5701.

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